REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending, with claims 1, 10, 14, 16 and 19 being the independent claims. Claims 14-20 have been added. Claims 1-13 have been amended. The amendment to the claims are to correct minor claim wording, and are cosmetic in nature. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has failed to provide an indication that the drawings filed on October 4, 2001 were received and accepted by the Patent and Trademark Office. An indication to this effect is requested.

The Examiner also has failed to confirm Applicant's claim for priority, nor has the Examiner indicated whether the certified copies of the priority documents were received by the Patent and Trademark Office. An indication to this effect is requested.

In the April 27, 2005 Office Action, independent claims 1 and 10, and dependent claims 2 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,650,632 ("*Volftsun*"), while dependent claims 3-9 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Volftsun*. For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims of the present application are patentable over the cited reference.

With respect to paragraph 2 of the Office Action in which the Examiner purports to summarize the invention by, *inter alia*, referring to the specification, Applicant's note that the invention is recited in the claims.

Volftsun relates to a method for transmitting signaling messages over a virtual private network (VPN) that request features not supported by a public network that implements the VPN (see col. 2, lines 30-34).

The Office Action (pg. 2, ¶ 5) states:

> Volftsun discloses telecommunication network transparency, which [is capable of communicating] voice and speech compression over Internet network, the system comprises first and second circuit (fig. 2), channel identifier (fig. 3). The system encoding channel identifier in the forth octet of [its] IP address for [use] as a source destination IP address, i.e., the destination address of a network layer protocol datagram is determined from circuit switched channel identifying parameters and the network layer protocol address of the second network (Col. 12, Line 66-Col. 13, Line 22); specially, in claim 2 recited IP address (see Col. 13, Line 8).

With respect to the foregoing statement, the following is noted. At first glance, the techniques disclosed in *Volftsun* appear to be associated with a virtual private network (VPN) having protocol converters therein. *Volftsun* (Fig. 1) teaches that items 150 and 160 are the converters, between which the network 130 operates. *Volftsun* (Fig. 1) also shows an auxiliary network 140 which is to be connected in parallel to network 130 and consequently, between the items 150 and 160. *Volftsun* (col. 5, lines 20-29) suggests that the auxiliary network 140 is embodied as a packet switched network. *Volftsun* (col. 5, lines 20-29) describes that feature transparency in *Volftsun* is implemented by the auxiliary network 140. However, *Volftsun* fails to teach or suggest the circuit switched features recited in amended independent claims 1 and 10.

Volftsun (col. 1 lines 29-40; Fig. 7a) describes a conventional fixed point-to-point private line. *Volftsun* (Fig. 7b) also discloses a conventional VPN (730). *Volftsun* (col. 4, lines 50-55) teaches dual private networks that are linked by a network 130. *Volftsun* (col. 5, lines 10-67) indicates, the protocol converters 150 and 160 provide a connection through network 130, but the transparency is achieved only via the auxiliary network 140 from the private network 100 to another private network 110. However, there is no circuit switched feature present in *Volftsun*. That is, *Volftsun* fails to teach or suggest "circuit switched channel identifying parameters which identify at least one channel in the second circuit switched transmission line," as recited in amended independent claim 1, or the circuit switched features of independent claim 10.

Volftsun (col. 12, line 66 to col. 13 line 3) teaches the performance of steps when a universal protocol "[Call]" message is received. *Volftsun* (col. 13, lines 3-5) states, the originating auxiliary channel identifier is a value that indicates an address of protocol converter 150 in the auxiliary communication network 140. *Volftsun* (col. 13, line 5-9) teaches that the originating auxiliary channel identifier can be the actual address of protocol converter 150 in the auxiliary communication network 140, such as a four-octet TCP/IP address commonly used in the Internet. However, *Volftsun* fails to teach or suggest the claimed circuit switched features recited in amended independent claims 1 and 10. Moreover, the IP in col. 13, line 8 of *Volftsun* suggests an embodiment that features a four octet TCP/IP for the network 140. However, there is no disclosure or suggestion of the circuit switched features recited in amended independent claims 1 and 10.

Volftsun (col. 13, lines 9-15) states, the originating auxiliary channel identifier indirectly indicates the auxiliary network address of protocol converter 150, for example, by a protocol converter unit identifier. *Volftsun* (col. 13, lines 15-22) states, each protocol converter in the

network includes a translation table stored in storage device 208 that contains associations of a protocol converter unit identifier and the corresponding auxiliary network address for the so-identified protocol converter. After initializing the call identifier and the originating auxiliary channel identifier, UCM 154 send the universal protocol [Call] message to TCC 156. In short, *Volftsun* teaches the use of a specialized type of protocol. However, the claimed invention is not directed to a specific specialized, protocol. Rather, independent claims 1 and 10 include features directed to circuit switched channel identifying parameters that identify at least one channel in the second circuit switched transmission line. *Volftsun* fails to teach or suggest this aspect of the claimed invention. Consequently, amended independent claims 1 and 10 are patentable over *Volftsun* and therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103(a) are in order, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Moreover, the dependent claims include additional defining features that are not taught nor suggested by *Volftsun*. For example, with reference to Fig. 2 of the present invention, an "extra by-pass-lane 140" is not used, as is the case of the network 130 that is used in *Volftsun* for implementing the transparency. In the claimed invention, the network elements 300 operate based on the description at pg. 3, lines 34-37 of the specification, which describes the insertion of a number of samples from at least one channel of a PCM transmission line into the payload portion of a data packet, and indicating the destination PCM transmission line and the channel within the transmission line in the destination packet address, as recited in dependent claim 8. For this additional reason, dependent claim 8 is also patentable over *Volftsun*.

New independent claim 14 has been added, which recites the additional feature of "inserting status information into a datagram". New independent claims 16 has been added, which recites the additional feature of "determining an IP address based on a time slot number having data which is transferred in the datagram". Finally, new independent claim 19 has been added, which recites the steps of "inserting a number of samples from said at least one channel of a transmission line into a payload portion of a data packet; and indicating a destination transmission line and a channel within the transmission line in a destination packet address." Independent claims 14, 16 and 19 each include the limitations of recited in independent claims 1, but with the additional features as noted above. Accordingly, claims 14, 16 and 19 are also patentable over *Volftsun*.

In view of the patentability of independent claims 1, 10, 14, 16 and 19, for the reasons set forth above, dependent claims 2-9, 11-13, 15, 17, 18 and 20 are all patentable over the cited prior art.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance. Early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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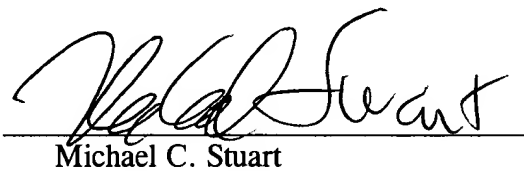
By 

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